

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.08

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 9/9/2003

GAIN Report Number: TH3107

Thailand Grain and Feed Weekly Rice Price Update 2003

Approved by:

Rodrick McSherry, Agricultural Counselor U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

Prepared by:

Sakchai Preechajarn, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Rice prices for most grades continue to increase this week.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Bangkok [TH1] [TH]

Indicative Price (Week Ending Sep 8):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations						Period Avg.		
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	545	535	602	569	570	560	570	564	553
WR 100 B	202	206	207	205	205	202	200	204	203
PB 5%	200	204	204	205	207	205	205	204	202
WR 5%	197	201	201	200	202	197	195	199	198
WR 10%	192	196	198	197	198	194	190	195	194
WR 15%	187	191	190	190	194	190	178	189	189
WR 25%	182	184	188	180	183	178	168	180	180
WR 35%	179	179	185	177	178	174	162	176	176
A 1 SUP	156	158	155	156	154	154	150	155	155
A 1 SPEC	154	156	154	155	153	NQ	149	154	154
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for fragrant rice have increased in response to depleting domestic supplies and stronger Thai currency against the U.S. dollar. For most of other grades, export prices continue to firm slightly mainly reflecting the currency appreciation although export demand is inactive and domestic prices are basically unchanged from last week. The Thai currency has increased from 40.70 baht/US\$ to currently 40.35-40.40 baht/US\$.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO	YEAR AGO
ENDING			DATE	
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
JUL 27	104,362	110,015	2,541	3,492
AUG 3	144,495	121,861	2,685	3,559
AUG 10	131,191	124,795	2,816	3,624
AUG 17	110,639	122,672	2,927	3,696
AUG 24	137,758	131,021	3,065	3,799
AUG 31	139,346	129,734	3,204	3,897
SEPT 7	82,604	117,587	3,286	4,000

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for September 1-7, 2003 totaled 82,604 tons, down 56,742 tons from the previous week's total and down 36,983 tons from the four-week moving average of 117,587 tons. Exports during Jan 1- Sep 7, 2003, totaled 3,286,679 tons, compared with 4,000,161 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Aug 18-22, Aug 25-29, and Sept 1-5, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Aug 18-22	Aug 25-29	Sept 1-5
weekly sales	122,560	69,200	69,535
4 week sum	476,706	447,668	393,028
4 week mov avg.	119,177	111,917	98,257
Total weekly sales	3,346,861	3,416,061	3,485,596